

In the claims:

1. (cancelled)

2. (previously presented) A program product for selecting an operating channel by a wireless device, the program product comprising a computer readable medium having embodied therein a computer program for storing data, the computer program comprising:

logic operable to scan each of a plurality of radio frequency channels during a scan interval for indication of utilization of ones of the channels;

logic operable to receive messages on the plurality of radio frequency channels during the scan interval;

logic operable to maintain a channel map having an entry for each of the plurality of radio frequency channels, and if one or more messages was received on a channel, the corresponding entry further including a device ID for at least one of the devices that sent a message on the channel;

logic operable to select a channel from the channel map based at least in-part on whether an indication of utilization of the selected channel was detected;

logic operable to transmit messages on the selected channel during a claim interval, at least one message indicative of an intent to utilize the selected channel;

logic operable to monitor the selected channel during the claim interval for a message from another device indicative of an intent to utilize the selected channel; and

logic operable to ascertain whether the wireless device should commence communications with other devices on the selected channel based upon characteristics of the any messages received on the channel.

3. (original) The program product of claim 2 wherein the logic for maintaining a channel map further stores a power level for each device ID for each entry in the channel map, and wherein the logic for selecting a channel from the channel map selects a channel having either no